April 4 - April 10, 2024 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

A PUBLICATION OF ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF MICHIGAN

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 13 www.associatednewspapers.net

From the publisher

For more than 150 years, Associated Newspapers has brought local news to communities in this area. These publications have won hundreds of both state and national journalism awards during that century and a half of publishing and have weathered some serious challenges.

The past few weeks have presented a serious challenge as our editor who is our only editorial staff member, suffered a serious injury and is unable to produce any copy for our local pages. She will be incapacitated for several weeks.

We hope that explains the few pages online this week as we attempt to make decisions and plans for the future.

It is and has been for many, many years, an honor and a privilege of our publications to be entrusted with the publication of legal notices from several communities in the area. Above all else, we plan to honor that trust and publish the vital legal notices this week, although our news coverage is severely lacking in both our usual quality and quantity.

These serious circumstances will impact our plans for the future, but those plans will include, as they have for more than 150 years, our constant commitment to best serve our readership and our communities.

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
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THE CANTON EAGLE
Vol. 77, No. 13

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
Vol. 24, No. 13

THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
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THE ROMULUS ROMAN
Vol. 139, No. 13

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Northville Downs developer sues Plymouth Township

The second lawsuit contesting development decisions in Plymouth Township may not be as "friendly" as the settlement agreement which ended the lawsuit filed by Meijer last year.

Last month, developers of Northville Downs filed a federal lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Detroit demanding $10 million from the township alleging township officials "aggressively" induced the owners to construct a new facility in Plymouth.

The Meijer lawsuit was filed after the company was denied a permit from the members of the planning commission for a new 159,000 square-foot store on Five Mile Road, west of Home Depot. A Jan. 18 consent agreement approved by the court will allow the construction of the new store in exchange for concessions to the township including a $100,000 contribution to the township tree fund.

The latest federal suit, however, is more contentious.

> *"The Township made extravagant, unlawful, and unconstitutional demands for $5,000,000 in cash, drone shows, soccer fields, pickleball courts, and other items worth millions more to obtain regulatory approval for NVD (Northville Downs)," the federal filing claims.*

According to the court filings, township officials rejected the project after racetrack developers purchased 125 acres of property in the township, based on assurances by Supervisor Kurt Heise and Township Economic Director Gary Heitman. The filings claim township officials placed unconstitutional conditions on required permits and that "extortionate conditions" were imposed not relevant to the harness racing track. The lawsuit alleges the demands of township officials for specific conditions, including a community benefits agreement, are illegal and contrary to the Michigan Horse Racing Law of 1995, the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, the Township Zoning Ordinance, as well as the Michigan and U.S. Constitutions. The racetrack developers are also requesting the court to invalidate the township denial of the racetrack development plan, without including the negotiated community benefits agreement.

"The Township made extravagant, unlawful, and unconstitutional demands for $5,000,000 in cash, drone shows, soccer fields, pickleball courts, and other items worth millions more to obtain regulatory approval for NVD (Northville Downs)," the federal filing claims.

Northville Downs, the only horse racing track in the state, closed the facility in downtown Northville earlier this year. The track, operating for 80 years, was owned by the Carlo family. The former racetrack property on Seven Mile and Sheldon Road is the site of a proposed $300 million redevelopment project.

See Lawsuits, page 2.

Powering up

Plymouth Canton schools offer electric vehicle classes

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is poised to take pole position in a rapidly evolving, fast-growing automotive field: electric vehicles.

In the upcoming school year, the district will offer classes focused on electric vehicle (EV) technology and manufacturing, becoming the first in Michigan to teach a full design-to-drive high school curriculum.

"All over Michigan and the world, we're seeing an extremely high demand for trained employees in this new automotive technology," said Gerald Lickey, CTE automotive instructor and teacher leader at Canton High School. "With our new EV curriculum, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is on the cutting edge of ensuring we prepare students for careers in this important new phase of the automotive industry."

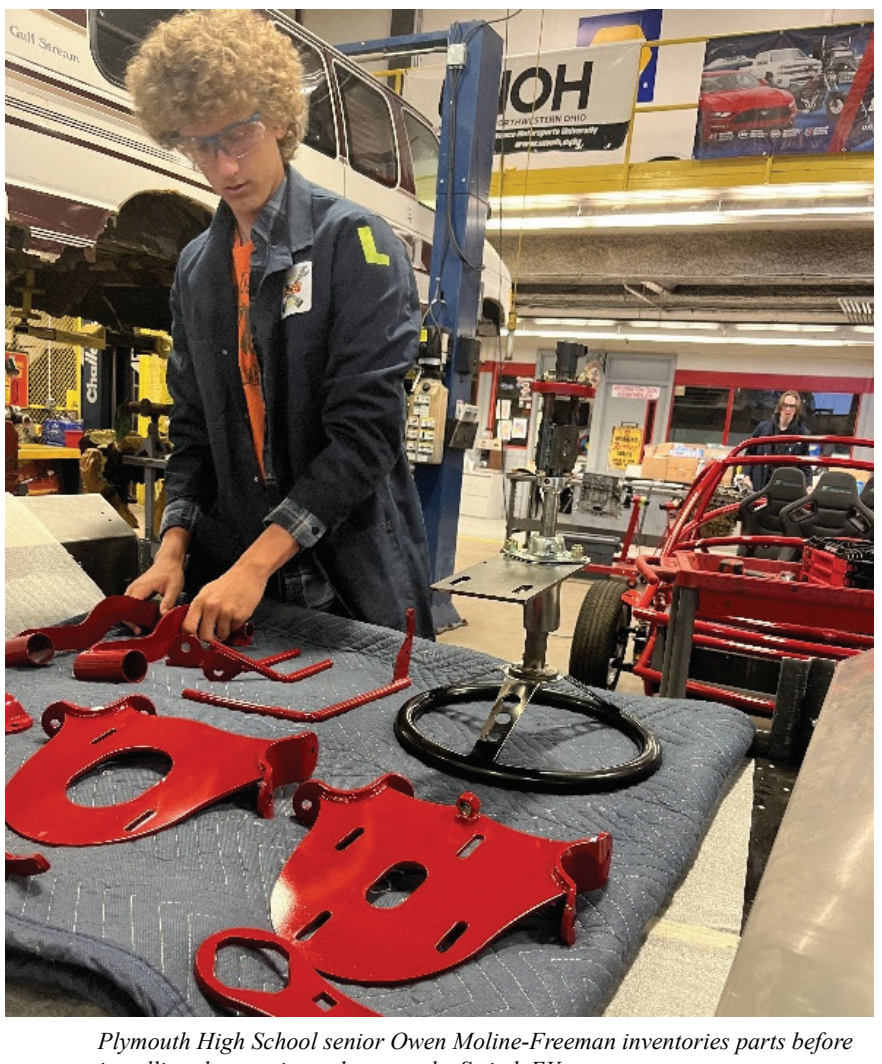
Posing with the Switch electric vehicle are Gerald Lickey, CTE automotive instructor and teacher leader at Canton High School; Plymouth High School senior Owen Moline-Freeman; Canton High School senior Liam Pfeifer; and Salem High School senior Jack Novak.

In the EV program at Plymouth Canton schools, students will learn about EVs including the technology and design. This includes building an electric vehicle, testing and repairing it, and driving the vehicle on the road once all technology, design and safety details have been nailed down.

The Margaret Dunning Foundation, which supports educational programs focused on the automobile and transportation industries in Michigan, provided a $58,000 grant to the school district for the purchase of Switch Lab electric vehicle parts and components as well as resources to build a curriculum.

"Electric vehicles are the big leap forward in automotive technology, like the monumental change that took place when we switched from horses to the horseless carriage more than 150 years ago," said Lickey, who has spent 40 years teaching and working in the auto sector. "Our students are just as excited about them as I am. This is the direction that the entire auto industry is going now."

"Incorporating electric vehicles into our Career and Technical Education curriculum is another way Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is preparing our students for job opportunities of the future," said Dr. Monica Merritt, superintendent of Plymouth Canton Community Schools. "We are so grateful to the Margaret Dunning Foundation and our partners who extended such generous support for our students and their success."



Plymouth High School senior Owen Moline-Freeman inventories parts before installing the steering column on the Switch EV.

The Squirrels closes 16th season at Tipping Point

The curtain will drop on the last act of the 16th season at Tipping Point Theatre in Northville with the Michigan premiere production of The Squirrels by Robert Askins, directed by Producing Artistic Director Julia Glander. The Squirrels is a fast-paced, witty dark comedy. Sciurus, the patriarch of a family of gray squirrels, has collected enough nuts to last 10 winters. When a group of starving fox squirrels begs him to share his hoard of food, animosity erupts into ferocious war. The Squirrels is a wild, rollercoaster ride about a family of squirrels (yes, squirrels) as they face the challenges of climate change and the changes amongst their scurry – no creature comes out unscathed, according to a prepared statement.

"Crazy? Of course. Crazy is what Askins does. Charming? Yes, that too, and thought-provoking…The Squirrels offers an amusing tale that challenges assumptions about good and evil, power and tribalism. This is an experience like no other," according to a review in the San Diego Local News. "We strive to offer not only new stories, but new ways to tell those stories," stated Glander. "The Squirrels is an opportunity to round out our season of vibrant, diverse, thought-provoking theatre. It is epic and Shakespearean in its scope - about love, family, loyalty, conspiracy, wealth inequality and ultimately war - all told in the squirrel world, and who isn't curious about that?"

The Squirrels opens with three preview performances beginning on April 10 and will continue through May 5. This production is intended for mature audiences. In collaboration with the Northville Tree Champions, Tipping Point will host a special opening night pre-glow reception beginning in the theater lobby at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 13. preceding the 6 p.m. performance. Beer, wine and charcuterie will be provided free of charge to all patrons with tickets for the April 13 performance. For ticket pricing and information is available at (248) 347-0003 or email Tix@TippingPointTheatre.com. Box office hours are from noon until 5 p.m. Wednesday – Friday. Email. General Inquiries. Tix@TippingPointTheatre.com.

Lawsuits from page 1.

The plaintiffs in the lawsuit sought approval for a new track at Five Mile and Ridge roads. After more than a year of negotiations, members of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees voted in January to terminate the project. Heise accused the developers of negotiating "in bad faith" regarding the community benefits agreement which was included as a condition for the Planned Urban Development (PUD) permit the developers were seeking.

Following the court filing seeking redress, Heise reportedly told media sources that these community benefit agreements are common, particularly when a development project might be socially disruptive. He admitted the Northville Downs development was the first in the township to require such an agreement.

He called the lawsuit "outrageous" and said the developers would not find a solution in federal court. Heise added that the township will vigorously defend the community benefits agreement and other conditions in court.

Court fillings allege that Heise and Heitman "aggressively" pursued the racetrack project and promised approvals of required permits "within 90 days."

Heise claims the racetrack project was handled in the same manner as any other business and that the required community benefits agreement was discussed from the onset of discussions. He said the agreement was an effort to demonstrate a benefit to the community from the project. He said the breakage fees, or the difference between winning better's payouts and the nearest dime, under Michigan's Horse Racing Law of 1995 would have generated $3 million for recreation and public safety in the township.

Both the Meijer and racetrack projects met with strong objections from township residents during regular meetings of the board of trustees.

According to the settlement agreement in the Meijer lawsuit, construction of the new complex will begin this spring. The project will include a pharmacy and garden center, as well as a separate 3,300-square-foot convenience store with a gas station on part of a 21-acre parcel of property.

The land is part of the Michigan International Technology Center corridor and owned by Redico Holdings, which has a purchase agreement with Meijer for the property. Specifics of the settlement include a $100,000 contribution from Meijer and Redico to the township tree fund, construction of an 8-foot concrete bike path adjacent to Five Mile, and other sustainability design features. Meijer will also contribute to the Five Mile Road reconstruction project as part of the settlement.

No court date for the Northville Downs suit has been scheduled.

Special tribute

Last week, members of the Westland City Council officially recognized the contributions of long-time resident Ken Sharp to the community. Sharp also received official recognition of his civic work from Wayne County Commissioner Glenn Anderson. Sharp's decades long involvement with the city while working with the fire department, serving on the planning commission and his untiring volunteer work with several civic organizations including the Westland Goodfellows, the Westland Rotary Club and the Norwayne Community Citizens Councils was celebrated during the regular meeting of the city council members. Sharp's wife Carol, at right, was on hand to help celebrate the honor.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 18, 2024 for the following:

BUS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES 2024-2026

Bids may be downloaded on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: mike.sheppard@canton-mi.org. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposal opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 4/4/2024

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, May 2, 2024, for the following:

CHERRY HILL VILLAGE – WATER FEATURE

Proposals may be downloaded on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: mike.sheppard@canton-mi.org. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposal opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 4/4/2024

CITY OF ROMULUS INVITATION TO BID
ITB 23/24-14 Semiannual Janitorial Services-City Facilities

The City of Romulus Michigan is requesting proposals from qualified vendors to provide semiannual janitorial services for the following City of Romulus Facilities; Old Court, City Hall, DPW, Police Department, Library, and Senior Center. The successful bidder will be awarded a three (3) year contract, with a City option for up to two additional one-year renewals.

(1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit a bid must use the forms provided by the City. Official bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the MITN Purchasing Group page of BidNet Direct (http://www.mitn.info/). Bids may be rejected unless mad
(2) Questions must be emailed to Purchasing@romulusgov.com and received no later than 12:00 PM Local Time, April 9, 2024.
(3) Clarifications, modifications, or amendments may be made to this solicitation at the discretion of the City. Any and all addenda issued by the City will be posted on the MITN Purchasing Group page of BidNet Direct. All interested parties are instructed to view the MITN website regularly for any issued addenda. It is the responsibility of the bidder to obtain all issued addenda and acknowledge receipt of said addenda by including a printed copy of each addendum as part of the required documents for this solicitation and to list the addendum and sign and date the "Acknowledgment of Receipt Addenda Form: supplied in the bid documents.
(4) A total of two copies (one marked "Original" and one marked "Copy") of the bid must be submitted together in one sealed package/envelope and returned to the ***City Clerk's Office*** no later than 2:00 P.M., **Thursday, 4/11/2024.** Bids should be addressed using the bid package label provided in the solicitation documents or submitted electronically on the MITN Purchasing Group page of BidNet Direct.
(5) At approximately 3:00 p.m., local time **4/11/2024**, all timely received bids will be publically opened and read.
(6) The City reserves the right to postpone the opening without notification and also reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive any minor informality or irregularity in bids received and to award the bid in whole or in part. Ultimately, a contract may be awarded to the lowest most responsive and responsible company, as determined in the sole discretion of the City of Romulus or otherwise in a manner deemed by the City to be in its own best interest.
(7) The successful Bidder will be required to submit proof of all bonds and insurance required by the solicitation documents and copies of all required endorsements.
(8) For additional information contact Gary Harris, City of Romulus, Purchasing Director by calling (734) 955-4568 or by emailing Purchasing@romulusgov.com .
(9) The City of Romulus strictly prohibits the reproduction or publishing of any published document or solicitation without the express written consent of the City of Romulus. Unauthorized posting of any notice of these documents or reference to said documents or solicitations is strictly prohibited.

Publish: April 4, 2024

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2008 PONTIAC 1G2ZG57B084265095
2011 FORD 3FAHP0HA9BR268789
2010 JEEP 1J4PR4GK3AC148639
2007 MECEDES WDBRF92H17F934767
2014 KIA 5XYKT3A60EG438328
2015 FORD 1FMCU0GX5FUB33743
2015 HYUNDAI KMHDH4AE8FU283756
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2014 HYUNDAI KMHCT5AE3EU189265
2017 NISSAN 3N1AB7APXHY288505
2005 CHEVROLET 2CNDL73F156011326
2017 FORD 1FMCU0GD8HUE92934
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2018 NISSAN JN1BJ1CR7JW282368
2014 CHRYSLER 2C4RC1BG0ER198669
2014 CHEVROLET 1G1115SL8EU102595
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2012 BUICK 1G4PP5SK6C4124708
2006 HONDA 1HGFA16856L083203
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2010 CADILLAC 3GYFNFEY5AS509342
2014 FORD 1FMCU0GX0EUD23092
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2010 CHEVROLET 2G1FK1EJ0A9177563
2016 BUICK 2G4GK5EX6G9157235
2007 BUICK 1G4HP57277U172320
2010 LINCOLN 1LNHL9DR5AG616224
2012 HYUNDAI KMHEC4A40CA046136
2011 FORD 1FAHP2EW0BG129489
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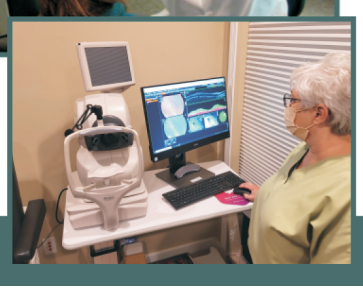

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